received any recommendation from International Union of Geological Sciences to control loss of life and property in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Increasing the cost of road projects

4601. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NHAI has sought permission from the Uttar Pradesh Government to increase project costs for an Expressway on NH-8;

(b) whether it is a fact that NHAI frequently submits project cost overruns to various State Governments;

(c) whether it is a fact that NHAI has not been able to complete projects without cost overruns;

(d) to what extent is NHAI able to properly assess the costs of any new project realistically; and

(e) the steps proposed to get all project costs assessed by an outside expert agency by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The cost of projects are assessed by reputed independent DPR consultants appointed through transparent and open competitive bidding.

Bridges under construction

4602. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of bridges presently under construction by his Ministry, State-wise;

(b) the time-frame by when the construction would be completed; and

(c) the costs involved in these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) There are 562 bridges presently under construction on National